GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3014
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2016
CERT-In
Kothapalli Smt. Geetha

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Computer Emergency Response Team(CERT-In) has signed cooperation pacts with its counterparts in Malaysia, Singapore and Japan for cyber security, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the CERT-In is the nodal agency responsible for dealing with cyber security threats;

(c) if so, whether the Memorandum of Understanding will promote closer cooperation for exchange of knowledge and experience in detection, resolution and prevention of security-related incidents between India and the three countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the work done so far in this regard?

Answer

(a): Yes, Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on cooperation in the area of Cyber Security with its counterpart agencies in Malaysia, Singapore and Japan. CERT-In signed MoU with CyberSecurity Malaysia on November 23, 2015, with Singapore Computer Emergency Response Team (SingCERT) on November 24, 2015 and renewed MoU with Japan Computer Emergency Response Team Co-ordination Centre (JPCERT/CC) on December 7, 2015.

(b): The Information Technology Act, 2000 designated CERT-In to serve as the national agency to perform the following functions in the area of cyber security:

â€¢ Collection, analysis and dissemination of information on cyber incidents
â€¢ Forecast and alerts of cyber security incidents
â€¢ Emergency measures for handling cyber security incidents
â€¢ Coordination of cyber incident response activities
â€¢ Issue guidelines, advisories, vulnerability notes and whitepapers relating to information security practices, procedures, prevention, response and reporting of cyber incidents
â€¢ Such other functions relating to cyber security as may be prescribed

(c) and (d): In view of the need for international relationships and cooperation issues, the Government has made concerted efforts to determine the ways and means of expanding the international collaboration as well as exploring the possibility of commonality of approach between nations. This aspect of cooperation is being dealt with by way of security cooperation arrangements in the form of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Indian Computer Emergency Response Team and its counterpart agencies that are willing to work together and share information in a timely manner for preventing cyber attacks as well as collaborating for providing swift response to the incidents.

The scope of co-operation between India and other countries includes the following areas relating to Cyber Security:

â€¢ Exchange of Information on Cyber Attacks and mutual response to Cyber Security Incidents
â€¢ Cyber Security Technology cooperation
â€¢ Exchange of Information on prevalent cyber security policies and best practices
â€¢ Human Resource Exchange
â€¢ Establishment of Broader Framework for Future dialogue

In the cyber domain, in view of the MoU and existing mechanisms of cooperation between India and Japan, both countries have collaborated to deepen the contacts for effective engagement, better communication and coordination, capacity building, information sharing and strategic cooperation in international matters on issues of mutual interest.

Following the recent MoU with CyberSecurity Malaysia and SingCERT, CERT-In has established Point of Contacts (PoCs) with both counterparts to enable better communication and coordination for the purpose of information sharing, incident resolution and any other issues related to cyber security.

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